

## **Illinois Way Forward (SB 667 - Aquino/ Welch)**

**The Illinois Way Forward Act holds law enforcement accountable to protect our communities from the abuses of US Immigrant and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Illinoisans are working together to ensure all people in our state—no matter our background or what we look like—are healthy and safe.**

Illinois has led the nation in passing legislation to protect immigrant community members from federal abuses of power and racial profiling. We need to hold our local law enforcement officials accountable to make sure these protections are being implemented as they were intended. Our state's resources should go toward initiatives that keep families and communities together and healthy, not separated by incarceration and deportation.

### **This law is necessary because:**

- Families throughout Illinois are under threat of separation due to harmful and lawless actions by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).
- ICE relies on local law enforcement to help funnel people into its detention centers, and despite many of the protective policies in place in our state, some local and state law enforcement agencies continue to assist ICE to detain people in our communities.
- Families continue to be afraid to take their children to school, seek medical attention, attend court hearings, seek public services or seek police protection.

### **The Illinois Way Forward Act would:**

- Hold law enforcement accountable to follow state laws that limit police collaboration with immigration agencies.
- Ensure that law enforcement follow state laws that protect access to legal protections promised under federal law for immigrant survivors of violence.

### **The Illinois Way Forward benefits:**

- ALL Illinois residents by reducing fear among immigrants and intervening in ICE's inhumane detention and deportation policies that separate families and hurt communities.
- ALL Illinois government agencies, creating clear guidelines regarding engagement with immigration agencies on immigration-related enforcement.
- ALL Illinois residents, institutions, and businesses that would continue to benefit from our state's commitment to the contributions that immigrants make to Illinois' diversity, culture, and economic success.

*For more information, please contact Fred Tsao ([ftsao@icirr.org](mailto:ftsao@icirr.org)) or Amanda Varela ([avarela@icirr.org](mailto:avarela@icirr.org)).*